

Name _____

Date _____

AR Announcement

AR is changing in 7th grade! Some of you will be excited as you will have more options; some of you will groan with agony as this will reduce cheating and encourage more grade level appropriate reading choices. Students still have to have 15 points to make a 100 for AR; however, *students now have an alternative way to earn some of their required AR points.*

What you might not like:

For an AR test to even count from this point forward, a 200+ word typed essay (chosen from the attached list) about the book must be submitted to Turnitin.com for review *per book*. For those of you who actually read, this will be a walk in the park. (Turnitin.com is a plagiarism checker. Instructions on how to submit are attached. Students have used Turnitin.com before and already have an account.)

When the essay has passed review (meaning that it wasn't plagiarized and that the requirements of the prompt were met), then the AR test points earned may be counted towards the AR grade.

What you actually might like:

So, you read a big 10 point book, right? Ugh! But now, you still have to find a way to get 5 more points! Reading another 5 point book could be quite cumbersome with that social life of yours. And besides, you'd rather share your own creativity with the world instead of have their creativity shared with you! Well, now **you can supplement your AR points** by choosing a more complex essay above the base level and by selecting an extra project for your book to earn more points. You can now focus your entire 9 weeks to thoroughly dive into ONE good book instead of several rushed ones.

Here is the procedure for earning AR points for EACH book that you want credit for:

1. Choose a book to read.
2. Read it.
3. Choose ONE essay prompt to respond to about the book from the provided list.
4. Write the fully developed essay and submit it to Turnitin.com.
5. Take the AR test over the book.
- (6.) Choose a project from the project list if you wish to add on.
7. Be sure that the test(s), essay(s), and project(s) are turned in by the time AR is due.

*After this process, if you chose a high-point book, you could be done. If you chose a midlevel point book, you may need to do this process two or three times. If you chose 30 baby books, you will need to do this process 30 times.

Choose one of the following prompts and compose a 200+ word essay based on the AR book of your choice.

Essays (1 PER book is REQUIRED for AR points to count)

All essays must:

- be typed in 16 pt. font
 - be a minimum of **200 words**
 - contain a direct thesis statement
 - be limited with pronouns (use real names for things, places, and people)
 - be organized
 - use concrete and textual evidence to verify your opinions
 - be proofread for spelling, grammar, and punctuation
 - be your best quality work
 - be submitted to Turnitin.com
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A. Book Summary (0 points)

Summarize the book you read. A summary must contain all parts of plot: Exposition (setting, introduction of characters, foretaste of conflict), Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Resolution.

B. Daily Reading Journal (0 points)

(Recommended for those who always read, but can't seem to pass an AR test)

After reading each chapter, summarize what you've read in a few sentences. Do this daily and you will have more than 200 words and you will increase your chances of passing the AR test. Total reading journal needs to be 200+ words not including days or chapter headings as subtitles in your written submission.

C. Compare/ Contrast (up to 1 point)

*** (If your AR book has been made into a **MOVIE**, this is your only option) ***

First, read the book, and then watch the movie. Write a compare/contrast essay discussing the similarities and the differences of the book and the movie. In your 1st body paragraph write about how they compare to one another, and then in your 2nd body paragraph contrast the differences between the book and the movie. In your concluding paragraph, write about which was better in your opinion.

D. Character Analysis (up to 2 points)

Write an essay discussing how the protagonist in your book is a *dynamic character*. As always, you must use concrete evidence to support your thesis.

E. Protagonist vs. Antagonist (up to 2 points)

Who or what is your character's antagonist? Is it another person, something in nature, something in his or her own head? In an essay, discuss how the protagonist deals with their main antagonist throughout the book. As always, be sure to use several examples of concrete evidence to support your thoughts.

F. Theme Analysis (up to 3 points)

What is the theme of the novel? In your introduction, state the theme of the novel. In your thesis, explain how the theme is developed. In your body paragraphs, give specific examples of scenes from the novel in which the author developed the theme.

G. Figurative Language Analysis (up to 3 Points)

Discuss the author's use of figurative language. Identify three examples of figurative language from the novel. Why did the author use these examples? What impact does the figurative language have on characterization, description of setting, mood, foreshadowing, theme, or the novel overall? In your essay, use a different example in each body paragraph. Be sure to explain the significance of each use of figurative language.

Projects (Not required)

Projects are in addition to the essay. Like an AR test, **projects do not count for points unless the submitted essay has met approval**. Projects are not required; they can simply add points. Can you do more than one project? Yes! You may do up to 3 differently approached projects per book. But, be sure to understand that QUALITY is worth more than quantity.

A. Diorama of favorite scene from the book (up to 2 points)

- using a shoebox, create a diorama of your favorite scene; be sure the diorama has the title, author, creator's name, and the chapter/scene scenario captioned on the box somewhere.

B. Design a bookmark (up to 1 point)

- must contain book title, author, images, and a persuasive blurb

C. Design a fan T-shirt (up to 2 points)

- must contain book title, author, images, and famous quote or blurb

D. Illustrated plot schematic (up to 2 points)

- create an illustrated timeline of events in the book; illustrate the events on a plot schematic; caption each event

E. Movie Poster (up to 2 points) (may not resemble any previously made movie poster or book cover)

- must contain title of book, author, images, blurbs, famous quotes, and credits

F. New Book Cover (up to 2 points) (may not resemble any previously made movie poster or book cover)

- must contain title of book, author, images, synopsis, and blurbs

G. Homemade video of favorite scene (up to 3 points)

- Must contain book title, author, and director (you) in the credits; actions in movie must be from the book and in good taste. Completed video must be uploaded to Google Drive and shared with your teacher.

H. Commercial for book (up to 2 points)

- Must contain book title, author, and director (you) in the credits; the commercial should be persuasive and should coax the audience into wanting to read the book. Completed video must be uploaded to Google Drive and shared with your teacher.

I. A comic of favorite scene (up to 2 points)

- Must be in full color and done neatly.

J. Are these project choices hindering your creativity? Do you have a better idea for your book? Propose it to me and bargain its point worth. I might go for it.

Warning: Do not wait until the last minute to submit any part of AR. Your teacher will never guarantee class time for this purpose.